

### **Preliminary Comment**

The divisional application submitted herewith is filed as a result of a restriction requirement in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09,863,063 filed May 21, 2001. The divisional application provides claims directed at invention I, a method of identifying an anti-nematode agent by contacting a test compound to a nematode, classified in class 800, subclass 3.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09,863,063 filed May 21, 2001, the parent application of this divisional application, is currently pending in art unit 1654.

Applicants petitioned the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for reply to the Office Action dated April 4, 2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09,863,063 filed May 21, 2001, entitled "Compositions and Methods of Nematode Control," for one (1) month from July 4, 2003 to August 4, 2003. The extension establishes copendency between this divisional patent application and the above-referenced application.

This divisional application contains the content of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09,863,063 filed May 21, 2001, as amended during the prosecution of that application. Also, this divisional application has new claims directed at the invention described above. No new matter has been added by these amendments.